

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 141849
ORIGIN EB-08

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DRAFTED BY EB/TRA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR:CAB
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MARAD - TCHRISTENSEN (SUBS)
-----079429 060548Z /14

R 052148Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS STATE 141849

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, VE

SUBJECT:SHIPPING: LYKES STEAMSHIP CO. REQUEST FOR ASSOCI-
ATE STATUS WITH CAVN

1. ON MAY 8, 1978, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR
MARITIME AFFAIRS ROBERT J. BLACKWELL SENT FOLLOWING
LETTER TO CAPT. GILBERTO J. RIOS, GERENTE GENERAL, C.A.
VENEZOLANA DE NAVIGATION (CAVN):

QUOTE: DEAR CAPTAIN RIOS:
AS YOU KNOW, LYKES BROS. STEAMSHIP CO., INC. HAS ANNOUNCED
A NEW SERVICE ON UNITED STATES MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
ESSENTIAL TRADE AREA NO.3 BETWEEN THE U.S. GREAT LAKES
AND THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA. ON APRIL 19, 1978,
THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION APPROVED LYKES' APPLICATION
FOR SUBSIDY ON THAT ROUTE. UNLESS THE SECRETARY OF
COMMERCE UNDERTAKES TO REVIEW IT, THAT DECISION WILL BE-
COME FINAL ON MAY 9, 1978, AND A SUBSIDY CONTRACT COVERING
LYKES' GREAT LAKES/SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE WILL BE SIGNED
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SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ON FEBRUARY 21, 1978 LYKES MADE FORMAL
APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE LINE STATUS WITH VENEZUELAN-
FLAG VESSELS TO ENABLE VESSELS IN LYKES TRADE AREA NO.3

SERVICE TO COMPETE FOR CARGO THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE RE-

SERVED TO VENEZUELAN-FLAG VESSELS ALONE. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, IN RECENT YEARS, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS INDICATED A VERY STRONG INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING UNITED STATES SHIPPING SERVICE FROM U.S. GREAT LAKES PORTS, AND HAS ENACTED LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO ACCOMPLISH THAT RESULT. IN VIEW OF THE APRIL 19 APPROVAL BY THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION OF LYKES' APPLICATION FOR SUBSIDY, AND OF THE IMPORTANCE THAT BOTH THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ATTACH TO THE PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW SERVICE, I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO, AND ACT FAVORABLY UPON, LYKES' FEBRUARY 21 REQUEST FOR ASSOCIATE LINE STATUS.

SINCERELY,

SGD. ROBERT J. BLACKWELL

ROBERT J. BLACKWELL
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS. UNQUOTE. MARITIME ADMINISTRATION (MARAD) HAS NOT YET RECEIVED RESPONSE.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INQUIRE OF CAVN REGARDING STATUS OF CAVN CONSIDERATION OF LYKES FEBRUARY 21 APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE STATUS AND TO REITERATE USG INTEREST
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IN FAVORABLE OUTCOME. PLEASE CABLE CAVN RESPONSE AND ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON STATUS OF LYKES' APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 jun 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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